

Many Attend Elks Fete

CPYRGHT

Grogan Describes CIA's Work; Press Keeps Freedoms: Moran

Agency Gets Data for Ike

By WILLIAM J. BASSETT
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Representatives of two professions—one devoted to secrecy and the other to getting as much information to the people as possible—outlined the importance of their work at the annual Newspaper Week dinner of the Scranton Elks Lodge last night in the Elks Club.

Approximately 115 Elks and regional newsmen got an insight into the supersecret Central Intelligence Agency from Stanley J. Grogan, retired Army colonel and former Scranton newsmen.

And from Thomas L. Moran, general manager of The Times, they heard of the important role played by newspapers in preserving all the freedoms of the country.

Colonel Grogan, assistant to the director of the CIA in Washington, gave a comprehensive report on the history of intelligence activities by the United States and the complex of intelligence organizations set up for the security of the country.

He also detailed the numerous investigations of the CIA. The CIA, he said, is continually investigated because it is new to the American people—it is alien to the idea of freedom and people just don't understand it.

The Central Intelligence Agency, he pointed out, does not duplicate and rival the existing intelligence agencies of the Department of State, Army, Navy and Air Force. They maintain their own intelligence activities.

But the CIA makes maximum use of the intelligence resources of the other agencies and aids in putting to an end unnecessary duplication.

The CIA is not a policy making body, he explained. "We furnish and evaluate objective information to the policy makers. The government is our only customer."

"Within the national security area, the CIA is the organization which provides the information flowing to the Pres-

ident and his principal advisers on foreign policy—the National Security Council—is timely, consistent and complete. The CIA brings together the judgment of intelligence officers in all departments on the major issues of fact and interprets them for the benefit of the President and the National Security Council," he explained.

The CIA does many things that are in the open but can't be publicized, the speaker said. Colonel Grogan told of the special services offered by the CIA, including the translation of Russian technical publications. The translated documents are turned over to the Department of Commerce which provides them to the public at an annual fee.

The CIA monitors all foreign broadcasts and newspapers and each day in Washington passes out to Congress, the press and the public a resume of what people all over the world are saying.

Colonel Grogan went into detail in describing the extensive security check on its employees, to prevent Soviet infiltration into the agency. Besides frequent security checks, employees undergo lie detector tests before entering the agency and during their employment with

The speaker lauded Allen W. Dulles, director of the agency, calling him as a "dedicated" man. The CIA, he pointed out, is mainly a civilian organization with a maximum of 15 retired military men on its payrolls.

CIA employees are paid Civil Service rates but are not Civil Service employees.

"Most of our employees stay with CIA," Colonel Grogan said, "because they are doing something for the country."

"Out of every 1,000 applications for employment, some 30 per cent are screened out by personal officials; the remaining are turned over to security agencies for investigation. Another 11 per cent are eliminated as a result of the security investigation because they drink too much, talk too much, have relatives behind the Iron Curtain which may make them subject to foreign pressure," he added.

CIA, he pointedly remarked, has nothing to do with national security, in reference to the security of the United States. The National Security Agency,

Colonel Grogan told his audience that because of its sensitive and secret nature, required by law and national safety—the CIA does not confirm or deny published reports, whether good or bad; never publishes, never explains its organization; never identifies its personnel except for the few in the top echelons, and will not discuss its budget, its methods of operations, or its sources of information.

Mr. Moran, in speaking on behalf of the newspaper employees, spoke for National Newspaper Week which started Saturday and runs up today.

"The daily newspaper is probably one of the most misunderstood—or, more accurately, understood—of the many things we come into contact with during an average day. So it's well that we have at least this one week during the year to take a closer look at this vital institution to see what the newspaper means to us and what it does for us," he said.

In discussing the week's theme, "Your Newspaper—Freedom's Guardian," Mr. Moran pointed out that "it's a big theme; it covers a lot of territory. But it's something that will be understood by any one who has ever had contact with a daily newspaper—and this means practically everybody."

Continuing, the newspaper official said: "Some of the ways in which newspapers guard our freedoms are quite obvious. As a representative and a reporter to the people, they guard your political freedom. They demand—and do everything in their power—to preserve government that serves the people."

"We tend to take both our freedoms and our newspapers for granted," he said. "Yet, think what a big difference the newspaper makes in the average person's daily life."

"How much of what goes on every day in this complex world of ours would we know if it were not for newspapers? More important, how much of what's going on would we understand? Interprets News"

"There are other media of communication, of course, which both report and interpret the news. But no other medium can deliver the wide panorama of the daily news as the newspaper

in such a way as to permit you to see the relationships between all the elements of the news and make your own interpretation."

Mr. Moran, turning towards newspaper advertising, said that "not only the news columns but also the advertising columns of the paper are part of the picture. And in a real sense these advertising columns also guard your freedom."

In concluding Mr. Moran said that "today's newspaper is recording what tomorrow will be history. Thus, while guarding your freedom today, the newspaper is at the same time guarding the freedom of future generations, by providing the guidance of past experience which they will need in preserving their own freedom."

"The newspaper is the faithful servant of truth, justice and democracy. It is freedom's guardian."

Edward J. Gerrity, managing editor of The Times, and an Elks, was toastmaster for the second time in the 12-year history of the dinner. He is the only man to be selected twice for the honor.

Colonel Grogan, who prefaced his remarks on the CIA with some personal experiences here in the days of his newspaper career before entering the Army in World War I, was presented with a plaque by I. E. Cunningham Jr., exalted ruler of the Elks. He also was presented with a button from the Civil War uniform of Patrick Duffy, his grandfather.

Earlier in the day, Colonel Grogan was honored at a reception in the office of Mayor James T. Hanlon.

Attorney Jerome I. Myers, past exalted ruler, was general chairman and introduced Mr. Gerrity. George J. Murdock, Elks chaplain, delivered the invocation and benediction. The Elks Quartet, composed of George Parsons, Sam Smith, Edward McCormack and Louis Santorn, entertained. Jack Owens was at the piano.

A number of close relatives of Colonel Grogan attended the fete and were seated at a special table in front of the speakers table.